AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 1 starting on line 25 and ending on page 2 at line 5 with the following paragraph:

Exemplary cable modem systems are described in more detail in a specification produced by the Cable Television Laboratories, Inc., entitled "Data-Over-Cable Service Interfaces Specifcation – Radio Frequency Interface Specification SP-RFIv11-105-000714," ~~electronically available to the public at http://www.cablemodem.com/specifications.html,~~ published in the year 2000, and referred to below as the "DOCSIS specification", hereby incorporated for reference herein in its entirety for its teachings on cable modem systems. As described in the DOCSIS specification, data packets transport data between cable modems and their associated CMTS. In accordance with the DOCSIS specification, upstream transmissions occur when data is transmitted from customer premises equipment. Downstream transmission is defined as the transmission of data to the customer premises equipment (*e.g.* from a cable television network). In cable modem systems, well-known protocols such as TDD and TDMA aid in scheduling data packet traffic on the upstream and downstream transmission paths.

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